



# News Release

## Arizona Department of Public Safety

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**Date:** Thursday January 8, 2009

**-For Immediate Release-**

### **Arizona Department of Public Safety Seizes 9 Lbs. of Methamphetamine resulting from a Traffic Stop on Interstate 19**

On Wednesday, February 11, 2009 at approximately 4:25 PM, an Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) Canine Officer conducted a traffic stop northbound on Interstate 19 at kilometer 88, on a 2004 Mazda passenger car bearing an Arizona license plate for a moving violation. The driver's behavior gave indicators that are significant to criminal activity and a consent search was conducted of the vehicle. The DPS Canine Officer with the assistance of his K9 dog found four fire extinguishers. A search of the inside of the fire extinguishers revealed 9 lbs. of methamphetamine.

Detectives from the Counter Narcotics Alliance and the Major Violators Unit responded to conduct the follow-up investigation. The driver of the vehicle, Adam Meza, 27 years of age, from Cottonwood, AZ was arrested and charged with possession of a dangerous drugs, possession of a dangerous drug for sale, and transportation of a dangerous drug for sale, and was booked into the Pima County Jail. The methamphetamine has an estimated street value of approximately \$180,000 in Southern Arizona.

The Arizona Department of Public Safety Canine Unit has been instrumental in removing over 47,134 pounds of illegal drugs in 2008 from Arizona and the nation's streets. The unit is committed to keeping our communities safer through their successful drug interdiction efforts.

**Photographs are available and will be sent out in a separate email.**

*The mission of the Arizona Department of Public Safety, one of the most dynamic state-level law enforcement agencies in the United States, is to protect human life and property by enforcing state laws, deterring criminal activity, assuring the safety of the motoring public on Arizona's highways and providing vital scientific, technical and operational support to other criminal justice agencies. The Department, also one of Arizona's largest law enforcement agencies with some 2,200 sworn and civilian employees, consists of four divisions – Highway Patrol, Criminal Investigations, Criminal Justice Support and Agency Support. The Department is headquartered in Phoenix and has offices located in more than 80 communities within Arizona's 15 counties.*